The Church of The First Born
P. O. Box 1651
Salt Lake City 10, Utah

December 17, 1958

Mr. J. Marion Hammon
4610 Highland Drive
Salt Lake City 17, Utah

Dear Mr. Hammon:

You will probably recall the night that you called me outside after one of the Monday night priesthood meetings, a number of years ago, and asked me not to come again. If not, let this letter refresh your memory.

Brother Charles F. Zitting later approached me and explained what had taken place. He said that you had obtained the permission of the majority of the Council members to tell me to stay away. He stated that he had given his consent to keep order in the Council and to maintain harmony with you.

I do not bring this up at this time because I wish a hearing before the Council. You have already denied me that opportunity. What I have in mind is far more reaching. The saints deserve to know the seriousness of the position you have consistently maintained with regard to me in order that they may better ascertain whether or not you are really acting under the spirit and calling of your apostleship in many of the things you say and do.

Whenever an organization casts out the thinkers from its membership, and only keeps the "yes men" and "blind followers", it soon comes to an end. It was this kind of a situation that prevailed in Jerusalem at the time of the beheading of John The Baptist and the crucifixion of Jesus Christ.

Why am I making a public issue of this matter? Because any member that is cast out of any organization, from the highest order of the Gods to the lowest order of mortal cults, henceforth owes it no allegiance whatsoever. Otherwise, there would be no free agency--freedom of will to start anew, elsewhere.

Again, according to your preaching, when the Church of Christ in foolishness casts out one of its members who holds a presiding priesthood authority, that member does not necessarily lose his priesthood. I tried on many occasions to explain to you what I held and how I obtained it. But, you said it was too fantastic to even consider. And, it was obvious that you felt that you had the right to settle the matter in your own way, which you did at a time when I was broke and crippled. Now, my time has come to be heard and I intend to win for myself that which is rightfully mine.

I consider you to be the most dominant of all the Fundamentalists of the day. And, inasmuch as you were the one who cast me out, I deem that you should be the one to answer for the wrong.

If I am right and lose this struggle for recognition, it will do no one any good. If I am wrong in my claim, I am justly a legal outcast. But, if I am right and I win my point, it will be the undoing of those who fight against me. Be assured, I am right and I shall win.

When a high official in the priesthood makes a mistake, it is a bigger mistake than when a lesser authority makes one. What I am trying to say is that if I am right, then those who oppose me must change their course or lose their priesthood.

One can safely say that the prophecies used by the Fundamentalists against the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints pertain to themselves, too, at least to a degree.

If a leader wishes to have followers who do their own thinking and who have the spirit of God with them at all times, he has only to teach the exact truth. I intend to make all those who oppose me look to be fools. I have had my day at their hands and I did not complain. Will my opponents do as well?

How did John The Baptist wrest the kingdom from the Jews? He did it by merely acting in the capacity of the president of the Aaronic Priesthood and by being right.

I HOLD THE RIGHT OF THE FIRST-BORN OF THE LINEAGE OF JOSEPH SMITH, JR., AND AM THE PRESIDENT OF THE PATRIARCHAL PRIESTHOOD TO ALL THE WORLD. And, I am right in my claim to be recognized as such by those holding higher Melchizedek authority. THEREFORE, THE FUNDAMENTALIST APOSTLES HAVE NO MORE RIGHT TO BY-PASS ME IN ANY OF THEIR DEALINGS WITH THE PEOPLE IN PATRIARCHAL MATTERS THAN THE JEWISH HIGH PRIESTS HAD A RIGHT TO BY-PASS JOHN THE BAPTIST IN THEIR DEALINGS WITH THE PEOPLE IN LEVITICAL MATTERS.

The patriarchal authority held by Hyrum Smith was previously held by Oliver Cowdery and it pertains to the Gentiles.

When I tried to explain these things to the Council members, years ago, the brethren thought that I was trying to preside over them and they wanted me out of the way. In carrying out such a desire, they have put me in a position wherein they can no longer preside over me without looking stupid before their followers.

What would the people say if the leaders of the Fundamentalists should call me to the stand and announce: "Here is the man who holds the patriarchal keys that we have been claiming to hold all these years."

It is impossible to go back and start over. Consequently, a great test is upon the people.

Respectfully,

Ross W. LeBaron